



Bexton Primary School

Together we can make a difference

Gritting Arrangements for Icy Weather

Introduction

It is essential that a school exercises its full duty of care and ensures safe access to and from the school entrance, and whilst moving around the school during the day, for all staff, pupils, parents and visitors. It is also essential that assessments are made to establish the risk in plenty of time - at the beginning of each day, during the day and at the end of the school day to ascertain the need to implement the gritting policy or not.

Procedures

Due to the size of the site, it is not practical to grit the entire site, safe routes have been identified and communicated to staff, pupils and parents. There is a gritting priority plan included at Appendix 1.

The site maintenance officer arrives at 7am each day and is responsible for putting down grit. In addition it is common practice for the access controlled gates to remain locked in the mornings so that entry into school can be controlled until gritting is completed, thereby minimising the risks

At **playtimes** a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the senior teacher on duty in conjunction with a member of the Leadership Team. If applicable, children may be allowed outside but areas restricted.

Good communication is essential. Parents receive a copy of specific instructions during the autumn and winter months via the newsletters, weekly updates and the website. Copies of the gritting plan will be attached to the school gates during times of cold weather. Children have the processes explained to them in the classroom or during assembly. It is expected that parents adhere to these instructions and pass all relevant information to friends and relatives who may also come to school to bring and fetch children.

During these conditions everyone will have difficulty getting to their place of work and dropping off children. Parents should be responsible and plan more time for their journey. Children should have suitable footwear for walking to school, if needed, and wrap up to keep warm for outdoor play. Parents should not expect to park close to the school, but especially not at these times.

Parents and visitors must use the gritted paths rather than walk across the snow and ice. Gritting will not be done on the pavements outside the school.

